

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H.3210**

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TO:	The Honorable Robert Harrell, Chairman, House Ways and Means Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Bryce Wilson		
DATE:	January 24, 2005	SBD:	2005050

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AUTHOR:	Representative Merrill	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-111-25
SUBJECT:	Active Duty Military - Scholarship Eligibility		

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ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

See Below

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**BILL SUMMARY:**

This Bill would amend the Code of Laws by adding section 59-111-25 to provide that a person who serves active duty in the military is eligible to receive a state scholarship until the age of thirty. The military member would have to meet residency requirements, be in good standing in the military, and otherwise qualify for the scholarship.

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) indicates this Bill would place an age limit on when military persons could be awarded a scholarship. Currently, exceptions are made for military personnel such that they are not penalized in scholarship determinations for service and there are no age restrictions placed on their receiving a scholarship provided they otherwise qualify. Therefore, the Bill could result in potential savings, although such savings would likely be minimal. The maximum awards per student for Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, and HOPE scholarships are \$6,700, \$5,000, and \$2,650 respectively per year.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:**

None.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy  
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget